1993 introduced a 5-year tax holiday under Section 80-I A for new industrial undertakings which start production after 1-4-1993 but before 31.3.98 in any of the backward States specified in the Eighth Schedule of the Income Tax Act.

(b) The Central Investment Subsidy Scheme 1971 for industrial development of centrally declared backward areas has been discontinued from 1-10-1988.

(c) The Government in 1988, announced a Growth Centre Scheme under which 70 growth centres are proposed to be developed throughout the country during the 8th Five Year Plan period. Each growth centre would be provided with basic infrastructural facilities like water, power, telecom, banking, etc., so as to attract industries to these areas.

Investment by M.N.Cs.

3154. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister's recent visit to Davos brought new investment by the Multi-National Companies in power sector and other core sectors in the country; and

(b) if so, what is the total amount that is to be invested by these multinationals and foreign companies in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Prime Minister's recent visit to Davos to attend the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum enabled us to present the highlights of India's Economic Reform programme undertaken since July, 1991, the positive response of the major economic indicators and the new business opportunities available for foreign investors in various sectors especially in power, hydro-carbon, telecommunications etc. The visit was also utilized to interact with representatives of multinational companies and other prospective fortign investors. However, it is too early to quantify the total amount of foreign investment likely to be made by these foreign companies.

Investment by Singapore

3155. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 535 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 1994 and State which are the States identified for investment by the Singapore Government in the industrial areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): The Singapore business delegates who accompanied their Prime Minister during his recent visit to India, are examining the possibilities of investing in India in various sectors. No State, in particular, has been identified by the Singapore Government for investment. However, some of the projects which are of interest to Singapore companies are in States like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Haryana etc.

Voluntary retirement in PSUs

3156. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRI G. G. SWELL:
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of workers who retired under Voluntary Scheme and amount of compensation paid in total and at average:

(b) what is the number of workers estimated as surplus in all the Public Sector Undertakings sector-wise;

(c) what is the estimated amount required to get voluntarily retire all the surplus workers;